

Further to the response filed on June 8, 1999, Applicant provides the following clarifying remarks. In response to the Examiner's previous rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(f), Applicant stated at page 6 and 7 in the Amendment and Response filed June 8, 1999:

Claims 1, 12, 20, 26 and 27 each recite the protrusion side surface as an angle of at least 20° from vertical. Although Woolford discloses a protrusion in 26 Woolford does not disclose any specific angular orientation of a side surface of the protrusion and in particular Woolford does not disclose a side surface of the protrusion having an angle of at least about 20°. Since Woolford lacks such a disclosure, Woolford did not invent the subject matter recited in the claims.

This response is partially incorrect. Applicant's note that U.S. Patent No. 5,704,183 has a number of figures each of which show a protrusion 26 having angled sidewalls. (See for example Figures 2, 3, 5, 6, and 11, among others).

Woolford does not disclose a side surface of a protrusion having an angle of at least 20° from vertical or recite this limitation in the specification or claims. Accordingly, since Woolford lacks such a disclosure, Woolford did not invent the subject matter recited in the claims.

Applicant apologizes for any inconvenience caused the Examiner and hope that these comments clarify the records.

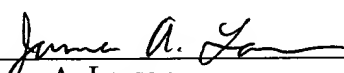
Conclusion

All rejections set forth in the Office Action have been addressed, and therefore favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are requested. If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be resolved over the telephone, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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